

R E M A R K S

Upon entry of this Response, claim 2-3, 5-8, 13-14, and 16-18 will be amended and claims 1 and 12 will be canceled. As a result, claims 2-11 and 13-20 will remain pending. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

As a preliminary matter, Applicants note that a Notice of Abandonment was mailed by the Patent Office on April 3, 2009. A Petition For Revival of an Application for Patent Abandoned Unintentionally Under 37 CFR 1.137(b) is filed herewith.

Applicants also note that a Decision on Appeal mailed August 6, 2008 affirmed the Examiner's final rejection of claims 1, 5-12, and 16-20. The rejections of claims 2-4 and 13-15, however, was not affirmed. This Response amends the claims in view of the Board's Decision. In particular:

- the limitations of claim 1 have been moved into claims 2 and 3 (now independent), and
- the limitations of claim 12 have been moved into claims 13 and 14 (now independent).

As a result, allowance of the present application is respectfully requested.

C O N C L U S I O N

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-0191.

Respectfully submitted,

March 22, 2010

Date

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